be desirable to wait and see what reforms were introduced there and to adopt such of them as might be suited to local conditions and requirements.

Reply.—The excise system which was tentatively introduced in the Trivandrum Division in 1073 was extended to the Southern Division in 1076 and to the Quilon Division from the beginning of the current Malabar year. This system has been on the whole found to be an improvement upon the old monopoly or farming system. It has been at all events a success so far. It is doubtful whether Government can go back to the old system in these Divisions. The action taken on the report of the Excise Commission may be awaited, as suggested by Mr. Swamy Iyengar, and such reforms afterwards introduced as might seem necessary.

151. Mitigation of coin difficulty.

Mr. Varkey Oothuppu (*Ettumanur*) observed that currency difficulties arose on account of the remissness of the mint and treasury officers of the State. He prayed that some measures might be introduced for putting a stop to, or at least alleviating, all future difficulties in this direction.

Reply.—Orders have been recently issued in the matter. The difficulty complained of will be dealt with when it arises. Fortunately, there is no difficulty of the kind now.

152. Proper distribution of budget allotments among the various divisions and taluks.

Mr. K. Karunakaran Pillai (*Parur*) represented that though various public works had to be urgently executed in the Kottayam Division and the necessity for allotting funds for the same had been brought to the notice of Government at the last session of the Assembly, nothing had been done hitherto in that direction. He prayed for an equitable distribution of the budget allotment of the State among the different divisions and taluks according to their needs and circumstances.

Reply.—This has been already replied to. (*Vide* subject No. 127).

153. Appointment of a Commission composed of official and non-official members for economising State expenditure.

Mr. S. Swamy Iyengar of Trivandrum (*Nominated*) said that

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